

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

SEP 25 2007

MIT-024-USA-P

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 1, 3, and 4-7, and amend claims 2 and 8 as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim [[1]]
8, wherein a bar disposed at an end of the bendable bottom member on one side has only accepting recesses.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) [[The]] A bendable bottom member of a bed according to claim 3, comprising:
 - (a) a plurality of side-by-side bars bendably connected to each other, allowing the whole extent of the connected side-by-side bars to be shortened, extended, and curved, said side-by-side bars being disposed generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed,
 - (b) a plurality of longitudinal connecting protrusions disposed on one of every adjacent two of the side-by-side bars being provided on one face of said side-by-side bar, said longitudinal connecting protrusions extending generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, said protrusions having an approximate rectangular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed, and an elongated generally rectangular cross-section tapered at its tip on a bottom face thereof taken in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, said protrusions having first and second beveled portions at tips and bases

MIT-024-USA-P

thereof, said first beveled portion being formed on a bottom face of each protrusion at its tip and on lower sides at tips of the connecting protrusions, and said second beveled portion being formed on a top face of each protrusion at its base and on upper sides at the bases of protrusions;

(c) a plurality of recesses having an approximate rectangular cross-section taken in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bed, said recesses having right and left lateral walls and top and bottom walls formed in a corresponding face of adjacent bars for accepting protrusions extending from an adjacent bar, for accepting respective connecting protrusions, said recesses accommodating the insertion in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed of said protrusions therein in sliding engagement therewith in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bed, so that top and bottom walls of each of the recesses contact a top and bottom face of a corresponding protrusion inserted therein;

(d) disengagement preventing means comprising hooks formed at a tip of some of the connecting protrusions; and

(e) corresponding accepting recesses having steps therein adapted to engage the hooks, so that the hooks and steps are engaged with each other when the respective adjacent bars are kept furthest away from each other, said adjacent bars being adjustable in gaps between adjacent bars, said bars being connected with each other in such a manner that they can be curved as a whole up to a limited predetermined angle in one direction only,

wherein said first and second beveled portions form clearances between the protrusions and corresponding faces of the recesses to allow the connecting bars to be bent a preset distance in one direction only, and wherein the second beveled portions at bases of connecting protrusions are inclined in adaptation to desired bending angles with adjacent bars so that adjacent bars can be adjusted in their intervals and can be rotated in one direction up to a

MIT-024-USA-P

predetermined angle, and a gap [[being]] is formed between every adjacent two connecting protrusions.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)